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Message Text

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21
ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 L-03 COME-00 EB-11 TRSE-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:SEWARD/SCA/SCS:TGUSTAFSON
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN
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---------- 031715
R 151922Z MAY 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, ENRG, BBAK
SUBJECT: COURT SUMMONS FOR JOHN W. MECOM

REF: AMMAN 2506

1. FOREIGN OFFICE SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT EMBASSY NOT AUTHORIZED ACCEPT COURT SUMMONS. LETTER ROGATORY REQUESTING JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE IN SERVING OF SUMMONS SHOULD BE SENT TO DEPARTMENT THROUGH JORDANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. LETTER ROGATORY MAY BE ADDRESSED TO "APPROPRIATE JUDICIAL AUTHORITY OF U.S." JORDANIAN EMBASSY SHOULD BE ADVISED TO TRANSMIT TO DEPARTMENT BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE TOGETHER WITH CHECK FOR FIFTEEN DOLLARS TO COVER EXPENSES OF U.S. MARSHAL IN SERVING DOCUMENT. MUST CONTAIN COMPLETE ADDRESS OF PERSON TO BE SERVED AND MUST BE ISSUED BY A TRIBUNAL - I.E., A COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, BUT NOT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

2. SUMMONS WILL BE SERVED ONLY IF RECEIVED SUFFICIENTLY IN ADVANCE OFHEARING DATE TO PERMIT ADDRESSEE OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR IN HIS DEFENSE. SHOULD REACH DEPARTMENT AT LEAST THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE.
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3. GRANTING OF JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE IS COURTESY EXTENDED TO FOREIGN TRIBUNALS ON BASIS OF ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE WITHOUT RELATION TO NATURE OF CASE, PARTIES, OR

MERITS. FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FYI ONLY; EMBASSY OF COURSE SHOULD NOT DISCUSS MERITS OF CASE WITH GOJ.

4. JOHN MECOM HAD CONCESSION TO EXPLORE FOR OIL IN JORDAN CIRCA 1964-65. GOJ MAINTAINS HE FAILED TO FULFILL TERMS OF CONTRACT AND OWES PENALTIES.

5. APPROXIMATELY A YEAR AGO MECOM REPORTEDLY FILED FOR BANKRUPTCY IN LOUISIANA; JORDANIANS SUED MECOM AND HE FILED COUNTER SUIT. AS IT TURNED OUT, MECOM NOT ACTUALLY BANKRUPT AND MATTER WAS DROPPED.

6. EMBASSY IS CORRECT IN STATING THAT MECOM HAS DRILLING EQUIPMENT IN JORDAN, REPORTEDLY AT AQABA. OUR GUESS IS THAT GOJ IS NOW ATTEMPTING TO GET JUDGMENT AGAINST MECOM IN ITS OWN COURTS IN ORDER TO SEIZE EQUIPMENT. RUSH

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Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
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